

**Bonneville Power Administration  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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## BPA sets meetings on power line planned for Seattle area

**Portland, Ore.** - The Bonneville Power Administration has scheduled five public meetings in central King County to discuss a proposed new 500-kilovolt transmission line to serve the Puget Sound area. The project is called the Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project.

BPA Project Manager Lou Driessen explained that BPA will prepare a supplemental draft environmental impact statement on the proposal and is seeking the public's help in identifying issues and concerns it should address. The agency has refined the cost estimates of a preferred alternative through the Cedar River watershed and will evaluate four alternatives not analyzed in detail in earlier studies.

"We've reviewed many public comments on our draft environmental impact statement," Driessen said. "It was issued in June 2001 after two years of study. But we are supplementing the statement in response to citizen concerns about the preferred alternative."

The preferred alternative would parallel an existing transmission line through the Cedar River watershed. The added alternative routes are all located outside the watershed. Two routes would pass through the Maple Valley area and near Black Diamond. Two other routes would go through mountain passes along Interstate 90 near North Bend.

Driessen emphasized, "Although BPA has determined the Cedar River watershed route to be the preferred alternative, all options are viable and under consideration. We are accepting comments over all options, not just the preferred alternative."

The schedule for the public meetings is as follows:

Wednesday, June 5 - 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Seattle Center Rainier Room, 305 Harrison St., Seattle, Wash.

Thursday, June 6 - 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Mt. Si Senior Center, Multi Purpose Room, 411 Main Avenue South, North Bend, Wash.

Saturday, June 8 - 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Black Diamond Community Center Main Hall, 31605 3rd Avenue N.E., Black Diamond, Wash.

Wednesday, June 12 - 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Tahoma Senior High School, The Commons, 18200 S.E. 240th St., Kent, Wash.

Thursday, June 13 - 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Maple Valley Community Center Main Hall, 22010 S.E. 248th St., Maple Valley, Wash.

The weekday meetings will have an open house format from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. with opportunities for more formal comments from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The Saturday meeting will have the same format with an open house running from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and formal comments from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

BPA encourages interested citizens to attend one of these scoping meetings and to submit comments during the scoping period, which ends June 19. BPA will use the comments to focus the analysis of the supplemental draft environmental impact statement. That statement will be available for public review and comment in December 2002.

Comments can be mailed to: Communications; Bonneville Power Administration - KC-7, P.O. Box 12999, Portland, OR 97212. Comments may be e-mailed to BPA at: [comment@bpa.gov](mailto:comment@bpa.gov) or called in at (360) 418-8445 or toll-free (888) 276-7790. The draft environmental impact statement and other project information is available at the project website at [www.efw.bpa.gov/cgi-bin/PSA/NEPA/SUMMARIES/KangleyEchoLake](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/cgi-bin/PSA/NEPA/SUMMARIES/KangleyEchoLake) .

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